

ABSTRACT

A method for producing a dialkyl carbonate and a diol, comprising: (a) effecting a transesterification reaction between a cyclic carbonate and an aliphatic monohydric alcohol in the presence of a transesterification catalyst, thereby obtaining a reaction mixture containing a product dialkyl carbonate and a product diol, (b) withdrawing a dialkyl carbonate-containing liquid from the reaction mixture, followed by separation of the dialkyl carbonate from the dialkyl carbonate-containing liquid, and (c) withdrawing a diol-containing liquid from the reaction mixture, followed by separation of the diol from the diol-containing liquid, wherein the cyclic carbonate contains a cyclic ether in an amount of from 0.1 to 3,000 ppm by weight, and the product dialkyl carbonate contains a carbonate ether of not more than 10,000 ppm by weight.